

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-06
CEA-01 HA-05 AGRE-00 INT-05 OPR-02 DODE-00 PA-01
PRS-01 FS-01 ABF-01 /100 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8353

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, EALR, PE
SUBJECT GOP RENEWS PUBLIC SECTOR HIRING AND PURCHASE FREEZE

REF: LIMA 0473

1. IN AN AUSTERITY MEASURE FOLLOWING UPON FINANCE MINISTER
SAENZ'S JANUARY 13 SPEECH (REFTEL) THE GOP JANUARY 17
APPROVED DECREE LAW NO. 22074 WHICH MAINTAINS THROUGH 1978
THE FREEZES ON HIRINGS AND PURCHASES OF CERTAIN GOODS AND
SERVICES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR ORIGINALLY DECREED IN JUNE
1977. (TEXT POUCHED ARA/AND.) WITH REGARD TO PERSONNEL,
THE LAW PROHIBITS MOST NEW HIRINGS; MOST FORMS OF PERSONAL
SERVICE CONTRACTS; CREATION, MODIFICATION, AND RECLASSIFI-
CATION OF JOB POSITIONS; AND REASSIGNMENT TO POSITIONS WITH
HIGHER BASE PAY. ON THE GOODS AND SERVICES SIDE THE LAW
PROHIBITS EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS,
AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, ELECTIRIC APPLIANCES
AND PASSENGER VEHICLES. IN ADDITION THE LAW PROHIBITS
MINISTRIES AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FROM INCREASING
THE BUDGET ITEMS ALREADY PROGRAMMED FOR AWARDS, PER
DIEM AND TRAVEL, AND PUBLICATIONS.

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2. CERTAIN ITEMS, SUCH AS CREATION OF NEW POSTS FOR THE
DIPLOMATIC ACADEMY'S GRADUATES, CONTRACTS FOR MAINTENANCE
SERVICE (I.E. MAINTENANCE OF HOSPITALS, PUBLIC HEALTH
CENTERS, AND EDUCATION FACILITIES), AND RENEWAL OF SER-
VICE CONTRACTS IN EFFECT PRIOR TO DEC 31, 1977 WILL
BE PERMITTED BUT EACH CASE WILL REQUIRE APPROVAL THROUGH

A SUPREME RESOLUTION OR A MINISTERIAL RESOLUTION, DEPENDING
ON THE LEVEL OF EXPENDITURE.

3. COMMENT: THE HIRING/PURCHASE FREEZE IS ESTIMATED
ROUGHLY TO SAVE THE GOP ABOUT \$/. 5-6 BILLION, BUT WE
HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN PRECISE ESTIMATES FROM THE
GOVERNMENT. FOREIGN MINISTRY CONTACTS DID NOT SEEM
TERRIBLY WORRIED THAT THE MEASURE WOULD CUT BACK SERIOUSLY
UPON THE MINISTRY'S PARTICIPATION AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES,
BUT THEY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ATTENDANCE B
TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM OTHER MINISTRIES WOULD HAVE TO BE
REDUCED.
SHLAUDEMANN

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Message Attributes

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